



California Public Utilities Commission

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Contact: Terrie Prosper, 415.703.1366, news@cpuc.ca.gov

PUC APPROVES PROJECTS TO ENSURE TRANSMISSION RELIABILITY FOR CALIFORNIA

SAN FRANCISCO, July 8, 2004 – The California Public Utilities Commission (PUC), in its ongoing efforts to ensure electricity reliability for the state, today approved two transmission projects that will add a total of 1,560 megawatts (MW) of transmission capacity for California.

The two transmission projects approved today are San Diego Gas and Electric Company's (SDG&E) Miguel–Mission, and Southern California Edison's Viejo Project.

SDG&E's Miguel–Mission project will include the construction of additional transmission capacity to meet electricity demand in its territory. The project will run through the cities of San Diego and Santee and in unincorporated areas of San Diego County. The project will include (1) the installation of a new 230 kV circuit on modified steel lattice structures within the existing 35-mile SDG&E right-of-way located between the Miguel and Mission substations and modification of the Miguel Substation and the Mission Substation to accommodate the new 230 kV circuit. These facilities are part of a number of activities whose purpose is to enable the transmission of power from new generation resources and the importation of 560 MW to areas north of the Miguel substation. The larger project includes apart from the facilities listed above, a second 500/230 kV transformer bank and 500 kV series capacitors at Imperial Valley Substation, a 500/230 kV transformer bank and gas insulated 500 kV switchgear at Miguel Substation and the reconductoring of a 138 kV transmission line connected to Miguel Substation. These facilities will save San Diego customers approximately \$4 million in monthly congestion costs.

Edison's Viejo System project includes the construction of a new 220/66/12 kV substation in the City of Lake Forest and modifications to the existing Chiquita substation. The transmission line

corridor is located within the Cities of Lake Forest and the City of Mission Viejo. Edison will also install a telecommunications line from the proposed substation site to the Edison Irvine Operations Center in the City of Irvine. All portions of the proposed project are located within Orange County. The Viejo System project will replace 19 existing tubular steel poles with 13 four-circuit tubular steel H-frame towers along an existing right of way through the City of Mission Viejo. The project will include relocation of two 66 kV lines and the installation of a new 66 kV line on the new H-frame towers which would run adjacent to existing 230 kV lattice towers for 3.1 miles, and construction of four 12 kV underground circuits from the substation. The Viejo project also adds 56 MVA of local distribution capacity. According to U.S. Census data, communities in South Orange County are among the fastest growing in the country. Electricity use in the region has been growing rapidly and the project is needed to serve expected load in the summer of 2005. Consistent with the Commission's usual practice, the utility assumes the risk for capital costs and an eventual finding by the Commission that the investment was reasonable.

For more information on the PUC, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov.

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